

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP2003/008105 filed July 24, 2003**

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 16-34 are currently pending in the instant application.

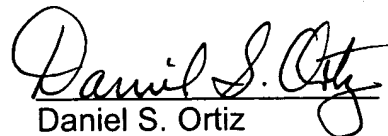
Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered in the specification. The amendments to the specification are of an editorial nature and do not enter new matter.

The claims have been amended to place them in a form for ready examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. All multiple dependencies have been deleted.

None of the amendments to the claims have been entered to overcome any prior art reference of which Applicants are aware. The amendments to the claims are of an editorial nature and are fully supported in the specification and claims as filed. Favorable consideration of the claims in their amended form is respectfully requested.

The Abstract has been amended to delete extraneous material which is not pertinent to the invention.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enc.: 1. Page 15